Page 90, line 17, change "and" to --or--.

Page 101, line 2, change "100." to --100, and--;

line 3, change "The" to --the--;

line 11, after "is" insert --instructed--;

line 26, change "anther" to --another--.

Page 105, line 23, change "steps" to --step--.

Page 119, line 23, change "10" to --100--.

Page 121, line 16, after "all of" insert --the--.

Page 143, line 1, delete "(Fig. 1)".

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 59, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1-58 and 60-87 as follows.

Sub B1

1. (Amended) An information providing method of providing information to a user, [characterized by] said method comprising:

[the] an input step of inputting a code;

[the] an extraction step of searching a first database for a first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code and extracting the first information;

[the] an attachment step of, when a predetermined condition is satisfied, searching a second database for a second

information, extracting the second information, and attaching the extracted second information to the first information; and

[the] an output step of outputting the first information or the first information [having] with the second information attached thereto.

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the input step [comprises inputting] inputs the code through a terminal apparatus connected to a network.

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, [characterized by] further comprising [the] a printing step of printing the [output] outputted information.

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the first information [contains] includes information [with which the user himself/herself can expect contents or type of the first information] expected by the user.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the second information [contains] includes arbitrary advertisement information.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1,

characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which attachment of the second information to the first information is permitted, so that the second information may be outputted in addition to the first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which, in addition to printing the first information, there is a margin for printing the second information [in addition to the first information].

8. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which a type of information registered by the user in advance is detected in [the] said attachment step as the second information.

9. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that

the first database stores a plurality of information extractable as the first information, each of [which has] the plurality of information being associated with a code, and

the second database stores a plurality of

advertisement information extractable as the second information, each of [which has] the plurality of advertisement information being associated with a code.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that

said method is used by a plurality of information provider servers each [having the] including a first database and [the] a second database, [and]

a management server [for] systematically [controlling said] controls the plurality of information provider servers, and

the plurality of information provider servers and the management server are connected through a network.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, characterized in that [said] an information provider server is included in [said] the management server.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, characterized in that

[said] the management server [has] includes a first table which stores a relationship between a respective code of each of a plurality of first information and [said] a respective information provider server storing the first information, and

[the] said extraction step [comprises specifying said] specifies an information provider server storing the first information by looking up the first table, [searching] searches the first database of [said] the information provider server for the first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code, and [extracting] extracts the first information.

Sub B2 A1 Cont.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, characterized in that

[said] the management server [has] includes a second table which stores a relationship between a respective code of each of a plurality of second information and [said] a respective information provider server storing the second information, and

[the attachment step comprises,] when the predetermined condition is satisfied, [specifying said] said attachment step specifies an information provider server storing the second information by looking up the second table, [searching] searches the second database of [said] the information provider server for the second information, [extracting] extracts the second information, and [attaching] attaches the extracted second information to the first information.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 10,

[characterized by] further comprising [the] a first registration step of registering the first information in the first database.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, characterized in that [the] said first registration step [comprises the storage step of storing] stores the registered first information together with a code for identifying the registered first information.

A1 Amt. SubB3

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 15, characterized in that

a server identifier for discriminating [one] an information provider server from [the] remaining ones of the plurality of information provider servers is assigned in advance to each of [said] the plurality of information provider servers, and

[the storage step comprises storing] said first registration step stores the registered first information in [said] the information provider server together with a code [including] that includes the server identifier of [said] the information provider server and an information identifier for discriminating the registered first information from [the remaining] other information in [said] the information provider server.

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, characterized in that [the] said first registration step comprises

[the] an image input step of inputting an original image,

[the] a transmission step of sending the [input] inputted original image to the first database, and

[the] a code giving step of giving a code to be attached to the original image.

18. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, characterized in that [the] said first registration step comprises

[the] a character information input step of inputting character information,

[the] a transmission step of sending the [input] inputted character information to the first database, and

[the] a code giving step of giving a code to be attached to the character information.

19. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, [characterized by] further comprising [the] a first change step of changing the first information registered in the first database.

20. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, [characterized by] further comprising [the deleting] a deletion step of deleting the first information registered in the first database.

21. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, [characterized by] further comprising [the] a second registration step of registering the second information in the second database.

22. (Amended) The method according to claim 21, characterized in that [the] said second registration step [comprises the storage step of storing] stores the registered second information together with a code for identifying the registered second information.

23. The method according to claim 2, characterized in that

[said] the terminal apparatus stores terminal specification information associated with specifications of [said] the terminal apparatus in advance,

[the] said input step [comprises inputting] inputs the terminal specification information together with the code, and

Sub B4

[the] said attachment step [comprises determining] determines, using the terminal specification information, whether the predetermined condition is satisfied.

24. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, [characterized by] further comprising [the] a third registration step of registering in advance, in units of users, user profile information used to determine whether the predetermined condition is satisfied.

25. (Amended) The method according to claim 24, characterized in that

[the] said input step [comprises inserting] inserts an identifier for identifying the user into the code and [inputting] inputs the code containing the user identifier for identifying the user, and

[the] said attachment step [comprises specifying] specifies a corresponding user profile based on [the basis of the] a received user identifier, [searching] searches for the second information corresponding to the user profile, [extracting] extracts the second information, and [attaching] attaches the extracted second information to the first information.

26. (Amended) A mail extraction method of extracting mail addressed to a user from a mail server, [characterized by] said method comprising:

[the] a transmission step of sending an [input] inputted user identifier to [said] the mail server;

[the] an extraction step of extracting mail selected by the user from [said] the mail server;

[the] a determination step of determining whether [another] other information corresponding to the user is to be searched for and extracted;

[the] an attachment step of, upon determining that the [another] other information corresponding to the user is to be extracted, extracting the [another] other information and attaching the other information to the mail;

[the] an output step of outputting the mail [having] with the [another] other information attached thereto; and

[the] a printing step of printing the [output] outputted mail.

27. (Amended) The method according to claim 26, [characterized by] further comprising [the deleting] a deletion step of, when printing [is] of the outputted mail has ended in [the] said printing step, deleting the [printed] outputted mail from [said] the mail server.

Sub B5

28. (Amended) The method according to claim 26, [characterized by] further comprising [the] an input step of inputting the user identifier.

29. (Amended) An information providing system for providing information to a user, [characterized by] said system comprising:

an input [means] unit for inputting a code;

an extraction [means] circuit for searching a first database for a first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code and extracting the first information;

an attachment [means] circuit for, when a predetermined condition is satisfied, searching a second database for a second information, extracting the second information, and attaching the extracted second information to the first information; and

an output [means] unit for outputting the first information or the first information [having] with the second information attached thereto.

30. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, [characterized in that said system has] further comprising a terminal apparatus connected to a network, [and] wherein said input [means] unit inputs the code from [said] the terminal

sub B5 apparatus through [a] the network.

31. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, [characterized in that said system has] further comprising a terminal apparatus connected to a network, [and] wherein said terminal apparatus [comprises printing means] includes a printer for printing the [output] outputted information.

A1 Amt.

32. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, characterized in that the first information [contains] includes information [with which the user himself/herself can expect contents or type of the first information] expected by the user.

33. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, characterized in that the second information [contains] includes arbitrary advertisement information.

34. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which attachment of the second information is permitted, so that the second information may be outputted in addition to the first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code.

35. (Amended) The system according to claim [27] 29, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which, in addition to printing the first information, there is a margin for printing the second information [in addition to the first information].

36. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which a type of information registered by the user in advance is detected by said attachment [means] circuit as the second information.

37. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, characterized in that

the first database stores a plurality of information extractable as the first information, each of [which has] the plurality of information being associated with a code, and

the second database stores a plurality of advertisement information extractable as the second information, each of [which has] the plurality of advertisement information being associated with a code.

38. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, characterized in that

said system is used in a plurality of information provider servers each [having the] including a first database and [the] a second database, [and]

a management server [for] systematically [controlling said] controls the plurality of information provider servers, and

the plurality of information provider servers and the management server are connected through a network.

39. (Amended) The system according to claim 38, characterized in that [said] an information provider server is included in [said] the management server.

40. (Amended) The system according to claim 38, characterized in that

[said] the management server [has] includes a first table which stores a relationship between a respective code of each of a plurality of first information and [said] an information provider server storing the first information, and

said extraction [means] circuit specifies [said] an information provider server storing the first information by looking up the first table, searches the first database of [said] the information provider server for the first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code, and extracts the first information.

41. (Amended) The system according to claim 38, characterized in that

[said] the management server [has] includes a second table which stores a relationship between a respective code of each of a plurality of second information and [said] an information provider server storing the second information, and

said attachment [means] circuit specifies, when the predetermined condition is satisfied, [said] an information provider server storing the second information by looking up the second table, searches the second database of [said] the information provider server for the second information, extracts the second information, and attaches the extracted second information to the first information.

42. (Amended) The system according to claim 38, [characterized by] further comprising a first registration [means] circuit for registering the first information in the first database.

43. (Amended) The system according to claim 42, characterized in that said first registration [means comprises storage means] circuit includes a memory for storing the registered first information together with a code for identifying the registered first information.

Sub B7

44. The system according to claim 43, characterized in that

a server identifier for discriminating [one] an information provider server from [the] remaining ones of the plurality of information provider servers is assigned in advance to each of [said] the plurality of information provider servers, and

[said storage means] the memory stores the registered first information in [said] the information provider server together with a code [including] that includes the server identifier of [said] the information provider server and an information identifier for discriminating the registered first information from [the remaining] other information in [said] the information provider server.

45. (Amended) The system according to claim 42, characterized in that said first registration [means] circuit comprises

an image input [means] unit for inputting an original image,

[means] a transmission circuit for sending the [input] inputted original image to the first database, and

a code giving [means] circuit for giving a code to be attached to the original image.

46. (Amended) The system according to claim 45, [characterized in that said system comprises] further comprising a terminal apparatus [having] that includes a scanner, [and said] wherein

said terminal apparatus and an information provider server [having the] that includes a first database[, which] are connected through a network,

said image input [means] unit comprises [said] the scanner, and

[said] the information provider server [has said] includes the code giving [means] circuit.

47. (Amended) The system according to claim 42, characterized in that said first registration [means] circuit comprises

a character information input [means] unit for inputting character information,

[means] a transmission circuit for sending the [input] inputted character information to the first database, and

a code giving [means] circuit for giving a code to be attached to the character information.

48. (Amended) The system according to claim 47, [characterized in that said system comprises] further comprising

a terminal apparatus [having] that includes an external storage [means] unit, [and said] wherein

said terminal apparatus and an information provider server [having the] that includes a first database[, which] are connected through a network,

[said] the character information input [means] circuit inputs the character information from a storage medium supplied to [said] the external storage [means] unit, and

[said] the information provider server [has said] includes the code giving [means] circuit.

49. (Amended) The system according to claim 42, [characterized by] further comprising a first change [means] circuit for changing the first information registered in the first database.

50. (Amended) The system according to claim 42, [characterized by] further comprising [deleting means] a deletion circuit for deleting the first information registered in the first database.

51. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, [characterized by] further comprising a second registration [means] circuit for registering the second information in the

second database.

52. (Amended) The system according to claim 51, characterized in that said second registration [means] circuit comprises [storage means] a memory for storing the registered second information together with a code for identifying the registered second information.

Subb8

53. (Amended) The system according to claim 30, characterized in that

said terminal apparatus stores terminal specification information associated with specifications of [said] the terminal apparatus in advance,

said input [means] unit inputs the terminal specification information together with the code, and

said attachment [means] circuit determines, using the terminal specification information, whether the predetermined condition is satisfied.

54. (Amended) The system according to claim 29, [characterized by] further comprising a third registration [means] circuit for registering in advance, in units of users, user profile information used to determine whether the predetermined condition is satisfied.

55. (Amended) The system according to claim 54, characterized in that

said input [means] unit inserts an identifier for identifying the user into the code and inputs the code containing the user identifier for identifying the user, and

said attachment [means] circuit specifies a corresponding user profile based on [the basis of the] a received user identifier, searches for the second information corresponding to the user profile, extracts the second information, and attaches the extracted second information to the first information.

56. (Amended) A mail extraction system for extracting mail addressed to a user from a mail server, [characterized by] said system comprising:

[means] a transmission circuit for sending an [input] inputted user identifier to [said] the mail server;

[means] an extraction circuit for extracting mail selected by the user from [said] the mail server;

a determination [means] circuit for determining whether [another] other information corresponding to the user is to be searched for and extracted;

an attachment [means] circuit for, upon determining that the [another] other information corresponding to the user is

to be extracted, extracting the [another] other information and attaching the other information to the mail;

an output [means] unit for outputting the mail [having] with the [another] other information attached thereto; and

[printing means] a printer for printing the [output] outputted mail.

A1 Amend sub B9

57. (Amended) The system according to claim 56, [characterized by] further comprising [deleting means] a deletion circuit for, when printing [is] of the outputted mail by said printer has ended [by said printing means], deleting the [printed] outputted mail from [said] the mail server.

58. (Amended) The system according to claim 57, [characterized by] further comprising an input [means] unit for inputting the user identifier.

A2 Amend sub B10

60. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium [which stores] storing a program for implementing an information providing [program] method for providing information to a user, [characterized by] the program comprising:

[the] program code for an input step of inputting a code;

[the] program code for an extraction step of searching a first database for a first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code and extracting the first information;

[the] program code for an attachment step of, when a predetermined condition is satisfied, searching a second database for a second information, extracting the second information, and attaching the extracted second information to the first information; and

[the] program code for an output step of outputting the first information or the first information [having] with the second information attached thereto.

61. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that the input step [comprises inputting] inputs the code through a terminal apparatus connected to a network.

62. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the] comprises a printing step of printing the [output] outputted information.

63. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that the first information [contains] includes

information [with which the user himself/herself can expect contents or type of the first information] expected by the user.

64. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that the second information [contains] includes arbitrary advertisement information.

65. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which attachment of the second information to the first information is permitted, so that the second information may be outputted in addition to the first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code.

66. (Amended) The medium according to claim 62, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which, in addition to printing the first information, there is a margin for printing the second information [in addition to the first information].

67. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that the predetermined condition is a condition [that] in which a type information registered by the user in advance is detected in the attachment step as the second

information.

68. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that the first database is caused to store a plurality of information extractable as the first information, each of [which has] the plurality of information being associated with a code, and the second database is caused to store a plurality of advertisement information extractable as the second information, each of [which has] the plurality of advertisement information being associated with a code.

69. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, characterized in that

[said] the program is applied in a plurality of information provider servers, each [having the] including a first database and [the] a second database, [and]

a management server [for] systematically [controlling said] controls the plurality of information provider servers, and

[which] the plurality of information provider servers and the management server are connected through a network.

70. (Amended) The medium according to claim 69, characterized in that [said] an information provider server is included in [said] the management server.

71. (Amended) The medium according to claim 69, characterized in that

[said] the management server [has] includes a first table which stores a relationship between a respective code of each of a plurality of first information and [said] a respective information provider server storing the first information, and

the extraction step [comprises specifying said] specifies the information provider server storing the first information by looking up the first table, [searching] searches the first database of [said] the information provider server for the first information corresponding to the [input] inputted code, and [extracting] extracts the first information.

72. (Amended) The medium according to claim 69, characterized in that

[said] the management server [has] includes a second table which stores a relationship between a respective code of each of a plurality of second information and [said] a respective information provider server storing the second information, and

[the attachment step comprises,] when the predetermined condition is satisfied, [specifying said] the attachment step specifies the information provider server storing the second information by looking up the second table, [searching] searches the second database of [said] the

Sub B11

information provider server for the second information, [extracting] extracts the second information, and [attaching] attaches the extracted second information to the first information.

73. (Amended) The medium according to claim 69, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the] comprises a first registration step of registering the first information in the first database.

A2 Cont.

74. (Amended) The medium according to claim 73, characterized in that the first registration step comprises [the] a storage step of storing the registered first information together with a code for identifying the registered first information.

Sub B12

75. (Amended) The medium according to claim 74, characterized in that

a server identifier for discriminating [one] a information provider server from [the] remaining ones of the plurality of information provider servers is assigned in advance to each of [said] the plurality of information provider servers, and

the storage step [comprises storing] stores the

registered first information in [said] the information provider server together with a code [including] that includes the server identifier of [said] the information provider server and an information identifier for discriminating the registered first information from [the remaining] other information in [said] the information provider server.

76. (Amended) The medium according to claim 73, characterized in that the first registration step comprises

[the] an image input step of inputting an original image,

[the] a transmission step of sending the [input] inputted original image to the first database, and

[the] a code giving step of giving a code to be attached to the original image.

77. (Amended) The medium according to claim 73, characterized in that the first registration step comprises

[the] a character information input step of inputting character information,

[the] a transmission step of sending the [input] inputted character information to the first database, and

[the] a code giving step of giving a code to be attached to the character information.

78. (Amended) The medium according to claim 73, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the] comprises a first change step of changing the first information registered in the first database.

79. (Amended) The medium according to claim 73, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the deleting] comprises a deletion step of deleting the first information registered in the first database.

80. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the] comprises a second registration step of registering the second information in the second database.

81. (Amended) The medium according to claim 80, characterized in that the second registration step [comprises the storage step of storing] stores the registered second information together with a code for identifying the registered second information.

82. (Amended) The medium according to claim 61, characterized in that

[said] the terminal apparatus stores terminal

specification information associated with specifications of [said] the terminal apparatus in advance,

the input step [comprises inputting] inputs the terminal specification information together with the code, and

the attachment step [comprises determining] determines, using the terminal specification information, whether the predetermined condition is satisfied.

83. (Amended) The medium according to claim 60, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the] comprises a third registration step of registering in advance, in units of users, user profile information used to determine whether the predetermined condition is satisfied.

84. (Amended) The medium according to claim 83, characterized in that

the input step [comprises inserting] inserts an identifier for identifying the user into the code and [inputting] inputs the code containing the user identifier for identifying the user, and

the attachment step [comprises specifying] specifies a corresponding user profile based on [the basis of the] a received user identifier, [searching] searches for the second information corresponding to the user profile, [extracting]

extracts the second information, and [attaching] attaches the extracted second information to the first information.

85. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium [which stores] storing a mail extraction program for implementing a method of extracting mail addressed to a user from a mail server, [characterized by] the program comprising:

[the] program code for a transmission step of sending an input user identifier to [said] the mail server;

[the] program code for an extraction step of extracting mail selected by the user from [said] the mail server;

[the] program code for a determination step of determining whether another information corresponding to the user is to be searched for and extracted;

[the] program code for an attachment step of, upon determining that the [another] other information corresponding to the user is to be extracted, extracting the [another] other information and attaching the other information to the mail;

[the] program code for an output step of outputting the mail [having] with the [another] other information attached thereto; and

[the] program code for a printing step of controlling a printer to print the [output] outputted mail.

86. (Amended) The medium according to claim 85, [c]haracterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the deleting] comprises a deletion step of, when printing [is] of the outputted mail has ended in the printing step, deleting the [printed] outputted mail from [said] the mail server.

87. (Amended) The medium according to claim 85, [characterized by] wherein the program further [comprising the] comprises an input step of inputting the user identifier.

Please add Claim 88 as follows:

88. A terminal apparatus connected to a server via a network,

said server comprising:

an extraction circuit for searching a first database for a first information corresponding to an inputted code and extracting the first information;

an attachment circuit for, when a predetermined condition is satisfied, searching a second database for a second information, extracting the second information, and attaching the extracted second information to the first information; and

an output unit for outputting the first information or the first information with the second information